Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:
Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to formula I

I

$$Ar^{1}$$
 N $(CH_{2})_{n}$ Ar^{2} SO_{2} Y X R^{1}

with its geometrical isomers, in an optically active form as enantiomers, diastereomers, as well as in the form of racemates, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

 ${
m Ar}^1$ and ${
m Ar}^2$ are independently from each other substituted or unsubstituted aryl-or-heteroaryl groups with the proviso that ${
m Ar}^2$ is not 1,3-phenylene or 1,4-phenylene,

X is O or S;

 R^1 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl group, or R^1 forms a substituted or unsubstituted 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring with Ar^1 ;

n is an integer from 0 to 5;

Y within formula I is a substituted or unsubstituted piperidino moiety, whereby one nitrogen atom within said

piperidino moiety forms a bond with the sulfonyl group of formula I thus providing a sulfonamide,

with the proviso that if Ar^1 is 4-chlorophenyl, then X is O, R^1 is H, Ar^2 is thienyl, and Y is not para-substituted by 2-hydroxyethyl,

with the further proviso that if Ar^1 is phenyl, then X is O, R^1 is H, Ar^2 is thienyl, and Y is not substituted in its β position by a benzo [5,6] cyclohepta [1,2b] pyridine or a benzo [5,6] cyclohept [3,4]ene [1,2b] pyridine;

with the final proviso that if X is oxygen, then Y shall not be substituted by a group (C=O)N(R,R') at the $\alpha-$ position of the sulfonamide nitrogen.

2. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a sulfonamide compound according to formula ${f I}$

$$Ar^{1}$$
 N $(CH_{2})_{n}$ Ar^{2} SO_{2} Y X R^{1}

with its geometrical isomers, in an optically active form as enantiomers, dia-stereomers, as well as in the form of racemates, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

 ${\rm Ar}^1$ and ${\rm Ar}^2$ are 2 -are independently substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl groups with the proviso that ${\rm neither}$ - ${\rm Ar}^2$ -nor- ${\rm Ar}^2$ is ${\rm neither}$ -1,3-phenylene or 1,4-phenylene

and Ar¹ is not <u>phenylene or quinazoline</u> that is substituted by nitro, hydroxyl, or 3,4-dichlorophenyl amino,

X is O or S;

 R^1 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl group, or R^1 forms a substituted or unsubstituted 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring with Ar^1 ;

n is an integer from 0 to 5;

Y within formula I is a piperidino group whereby one nitrogen atom within said piperidino group forms a bond with the sulfonyl group of formula I thus providing a sulfonamide;

with the proviso that if Y is substituted at the β-position of the piperidino- nitrogen by a benzo[5, 6]cyclohepta[1, 2b]pyridine, or a benzo[5, 6]cyclohept [3,4] ene [1, 2b]pyridine, while Ar² is thienyl, X is oxygen, R¹ is hydrogen and n is 1, Ar¹ shall not be a phenyl group;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier with the final proviso that if X is oxygen, Y shall not be substituted by a group (C=0)N(R,R') at the α -position of the sulfonamide nitrogen.

3. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1 or a composition according to claim 2, wherein Y is a piperidino group of the formula

whereby, L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from each other from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_4 - C_8 -alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl; or L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, -C(0)- OR^3 , -C(0)- R^3 , -C(0)- NR^3 ' R^3 , - R^3 ' R^3

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted or unsubstituted aryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy, and C_1 - C_6 -thioalkoxy, and

 R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl and oxo (=0), and

n' is an integer from 0 to 4.

Claim 4. (Cancelled)

- 5. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, thienyl, furyl, pyridyl, and optionally substituted by C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl and C_1 - C_6 -thioalkoxy.
- 6. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 5, wherein Ar¹ is an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl.

- 7. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 5, wherein Ar^2 is an unsubstituted or substituted thienyl or furanyl group.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar¹ is selected from the group consisting of a 4-chlorophenyl, nitrophenyl, hydroxyphenyl, alkoxy phenyl, pyridyl, 3,4,-dihydroxyphenyl, thioxodihydropyridine or its tautomer and pyrazole and X is O, R¹ is hydrogen, n is 1, Ar² is thienyl or furanyl.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 8, wherein Y is

 $(R^6)_{n'}$ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted $C_{1-}C_6$ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted $C_{1-}C_6$ alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl, and oxo; n' is an integer of from 0 to 4; and

wherein L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from each other from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 - alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 alkenyl; or L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group

consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_4 - C_8 alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, heteroaryl- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, -C(0)- OR^3 , -C(0)- R^3 , -C(0)- R^3 ', -NR 3 'R 3 , -NR 3 'C(0)R 3 ', -NR 3 '-C(0)NR 3 R 3 , -(SO)R 3 , -(SO₂)R 3 , -NHSO₂R 3 , and -SO₂NR 3 R 3 ';

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_4 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy, and C_1 - C_6 -thioalkoxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 9, wherein R^6 is H, L^2 is H, L^1 is a 5-membered cyclic group containing 3 heteroatoms or L^1 is $-C(0)-R^3$, or $-NHR^3$;

wherein Y is

n' is an integer of from 0 to 4;

with R^3 being a substituent selected from the group comprising or consisting of C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, nitro, or sulfonyl.

11. (Currently Amended) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

4-chloro-N-{5-[4-(3-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenylamino)-piperidine-1-sulfonyl]-thiophen-2-ylmethyl}-benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;

 $N-(\{5-[(4-benzoylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl\}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;$

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4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-
benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-
yl) methyl] benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-benzylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
yl \methyl) -4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          tert-butyl 1-[(5-{[(4-
chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-
ylcarbamate;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-(piperidin-1-ylsulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({3-hydroxy-4-[3-
(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(benzyloxy)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-
2-yl) methyl] -4-chlorobenzamide;
  N-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(5-\{[4-(2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-
benzimidazol 1 yl)piperidin 1 yl]sulfonyl}thien 2-
yl)benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-benzyl-4-hydroxypiperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;
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N-\{[5-(\{4-[(2-tert-butyl-1H-indol-5-
yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-
chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[(phenylacetyl)amino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}benzamide;
         N-[(5-\{[4-(2H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-phenoxypiperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl \methyl) benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[benzyl (methyl) amino] piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1H-
pyrazol-5-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(5-thien-2-yl-1H-pyrazol-3-
yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,3,4,5,6-
pentamethylbenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-
yl) methyl] benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-
3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}benzamide;
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N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
yl}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
      2 (5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol 1-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)-N-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
          2-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-
yl) sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-2H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-
carboxylic acid;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(5-chloro-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-
1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          methyl 1-\{1-[(5-\{[(4-
chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-
yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylate;
          methyl 1 - \{1 - [(5 - \{[(4 -
chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-
yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-6-carboxylate;
          methyl 2-\{1-[(5-\{[(4-
chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-
y1}-2H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylate;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(6-chloro-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-
1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
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4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-1,2,3benzotriazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2yl]methyl}benzamide; $N-[(5-\{[4-(7-aza-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1$ yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide; 1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2yl) sulfonyl] piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5carboxylic acid; 1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2yl) sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-6carboxylic acid; N-[(5-{[4-(2-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide; $N-[(5-\{[4-(6-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1$ yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide; 4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{6-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1yl {piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl {methyl) benzamide; 4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1yl | piperidin-1-yl | sulfonyl | thien-2-yl | methyl | benzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2H-1,2,3-triazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

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N-[(5-\{[4-(1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-propylanilino]piperidin-1-
y1\sulfonyl)thien-2-y1]methyl\benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(trifluoromethyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(dimethylamino) anilino] piperidin-1-yl \sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          methyl 3-(\{1-[(5-\{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]-
methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)-benzoate;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(methylsulfanyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          3-(\{1-[(5-\{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl\}thien-2-
yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[2-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
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4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(1,3-oxazol-5-
yl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[(2,2-dioxido-1,3-dihydro-2-
benzothien-5-yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-
ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-({3-nitropyridin-2-
yl amino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;
          N-\{[5-(\{4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(3-benzylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(pyrimidin-2-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
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4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[4-(morpholin-4ylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2yl]methyl}benzamide; 4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-2yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-cyclohexyl-4hydroxyanilino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl}thien-2yl) methyl] benzamide; $N-({5-[(4-{3-}$ [(butylamino)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2yl \methyl) -4-chlorobenzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-ethylanilino)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide; N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(quinolin-5-ylamino)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide; 4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(quinolin-8-ylamino)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide; 4-Chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylphenoxy)piperidin-1yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

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methyl 3-\{[1-(\{5-[(\{3-\text{nitrobenzoyl}\}\text{amino})\text{methyl}]-
thien-2-yl}sulfonyl)-piperidin-4-yl]amino}benzoate;
          N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
y1}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[2-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-\text{nitro-N-}(\{5-[(4-\{2-\text{nitroanilino}\}\text{piperidin-1-}
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[4-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{4-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;
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3-{[1-({5-[({4-nitrobenzoyl}amino)methyl]thien-2-
yl}sulfonyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[2-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;
         4-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[4-
(trifluoromethyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{4-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;
          N-\{[5-(\{4-[4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)\}anilino])\}
1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;
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N-({5-[(4-{3-[amino(imino)methyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-nitrobenzamide; $N-({5-[(4-{3-[(2$ hydroxyethyl) sulfonyl] anilino } piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2yl}methyl)-3-nitrobenzamide; N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2yl}methyl)-3-nitrobenzamide; $N-({5-[(4-{3-[(2$ hydroxyethyl) sulfonyl] anilino } piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2yl \methyl) -4-nitrobenzamide; N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2yl \methyl) -4-nitrobenzamide; N-({5-[(4-{3-[amino(imino)methyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-4-nitrobenzamide; 3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-({3-nitropyridin-2yl amino) piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl thien-2-yl) methyl benzamide; $N-\{[5-(\{4-[(2,2-dioxido-1,3-dihydro-2-benzothien-5$ yl) amino] piperidin-1-yl } sulfonyl) thien-2-yl] methyl } -3nitrobenzamide; N-[(5-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide; 3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-

yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

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3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(1,3-oxazol-5-
yl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-\text{nitro-N-}[(5-\{[4-(2-\text{phenylethyl})\text{piperidin-1-}]
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-
yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-
nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-benzylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(morpholin-4-
ylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylphenoxy)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(pyrimidin-2-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
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N-{[5-({4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-({3-nitropyridin-2-
yl amino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ylamino)piperidin-
1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;
          4-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(1,3-oxazol-5-
yl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-(\{5-[(4-\{[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-
yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-4-
nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-benzylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;
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4-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(morpholin-4-
ylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(2-aminoanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-\text{nitro-N-}[(5-\{[4-(\text{pyrimidin-}2-\text{ylamino})\text{piperidin-}1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-\{[5-(\{4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{2-nitro-4-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-\text{nitro-N-}(\{5-[(4-\{[4-(\text{trifluoromethyl})\text{pyrimidin-}2-
yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-cyclohexyl-4-hydroxyanilino)piperidin-
1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{3-}
[(butylamino)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
yl}methyl)-3-nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(3-ethylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
           3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-
ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
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4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylphenoxy)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
         N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          2-Hydroxy-N-({5-[(4-{3-}
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
         N-[(5-\{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
         N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-hydroxybenzamide;
         N-\{[5-(\{4-[4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)anilino]piperidin-
1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-
y1}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
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3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-
(methylsulfonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-
(methylsulfanyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;
          methyl 3-(\{1-[(5-\{[(3-methoxybenzoyl)amino]-
methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)-benzoate;
          N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-(\{5-[(4-\{3-nitroanilino\}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[2-
(trifluoromethyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino})piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl \methyl) -3-methoxybenzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
v1}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;
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N-\{[5-(\{4-[4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)anilino]piperidin-
1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-({5-[(4-{4-}
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{3-[amino(imino)methyl]anilino}piperidin-
1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide;
          N - ({5 - [(4 - {3 - [(2 -
hydroxyethyl) sulfonyl] anilino } piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-
y1}methy1)-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-({5-[(4-{3-}
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl }methyl) benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
y1}methy1)-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-({5-[(4-{3-}
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfanyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl \methyl) benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(4-hydroxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
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N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-}
yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-
methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-(1,3-oxazol-5-
yl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylamino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylphenoxy)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-(morpholin-4-
ylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl]methyl}benzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;
          N-[(5-\{[4-(3-benzylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
          3-methoxy-N-({5-[(4-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-
2-yl]amino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
yl \methyl) benzamide;
          N-[(5-{[4-(3-cyclohexyl-4-hydroxyanilino)piperidin-
1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;
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$$N - ({5 - [(4 - {3 - })$$

[(butylamino)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide;

 $N-[(5-\{[4-(3-ethylanilino)piperidin-1-$

yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxamide;

 $N-[(5-\{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl\}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;$

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-thioxo-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3,4-dihydroxybenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(hexyloxy)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

 $N-(\{5-[(4-heptanoylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl\}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide;$

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4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(dimethylamino) anilino] piperidin-1-yl sulfonyl) -2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(methylsulfonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) -2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-
(methylsulfanyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
y1}sulfony1)-2-furyl]methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;
          methyl 3-(\{1-[(5-\{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl\}-2-
furyl) sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl amino) benzoate;
          3-({1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}-2-
furyl) sulfonyl] piperidin-4-yl amino) benzamide;
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4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl}methyl)benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[2-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
        4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl}methyl)benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[4-
(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-
furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{4-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-
furyl \methyl) benzamide;
          N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;
          4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-
yl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}benzamide;
          N-({5-[(4-{3-[amino(imino)methyl]anilino}piperidin-
1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;
```

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{3-

[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl}methyl)benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-

furyl}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide; and

4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{3-

[(trifluoromethyl)sulfanyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]2-furyl}methyl)benzamide.

12. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 11, which is selected from the group consisting of:

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

 $N-(\{5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl\}methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;$

 $N-[(5-\{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl\}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;$

N-[(5- ${[4-(1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-}$

yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-propylanilino]piperidin-1-

yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{3-[(2-

hydroxyethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)benzamide;

 $N-\{[5-(\{4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl\}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl\}-4-chlorobenzamide;$

methyl 3-{[1-({5-[({4-

nitrobenzoyl}amino)methyl]thien-2-yl}sulfonyl)piperidin-4yl]amino}benzoate;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-hydroxybenzamide; and
N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl}methyl)-3-methoxybenzamide.

Claims 13-19. (Cancelled)

- 20. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one sulfonamide compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.
- 21. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, comprising reacting a sulfonyl chloride V

$$Ar^{1}$$
 H $(CH_{2})_{n}$ Ar^{2} $SO_{2}CI$

with an amine VIII

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\$$

whereby n is an integer of from 0 to 5, n' $(\mathbb{R}^6)_{n!}$ —is an integer of from 0 to 4, n—R₆ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl and oxo;

L¹ and L² are independently selected from each other from—the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1C_2 — C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1C_2 — C_6 alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1C_3 — C_6 alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_1 — C_6C_4 — C_8 alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl; or L¹ and L² are independent—independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, aryl— C_1 — C_6 alkyl—Heteroaryl—heteroaryl— C_1 — C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_4 — C_8 alkyl optionally containing 1-3

heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl, - $C(0)R^3$, - $C(0)OR^3$, - $C(0)-NR^3'R^3$, - $NR^3'C(0)R^3$, - $NR^3'C(0)NR^3R^3$ - $(SO_2)R^3$, $NHSO_2R^3$ and $SO_2NR^3'R^3$;

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted or unsubstituted aryl- C_1 - C_6 alkyl and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 alkyl,

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_2 - C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy and C_1 - C_6 thioalkoxy.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein said sulfonyl chloride V is obtained by

a) coupling an amine of formula II:

$$R^1HN-(CH_2)_n-Ar^2$$

with an acyl chloride of formula III:

III

to provide an amide of formula IV:

$$Ar^{1} \parallel N - (CH_{2})_{n} - Ar^{2}$$

b) sulfonating the amide of formula IV to provide a sulfonyl chloride V

$$Ar^{1}$$
 H $(CH_{2})_{n}$ Ar^{2} $SO_{2}CI$

Claims 23-26. (Cancelled)

- 27. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 1 wherein n is an integer of from 1 to 3.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 27 wherein n is 1.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 2 wherein n is an integer of from 1 to 3.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 29 wherein n is 1.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 3 wherein n is 1 or 2.

Claims 32-34. (Cancelled)

- 35. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 5 wherein the $C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl group is trihalomethyl.
- 36. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 9 wherein L^1 is a triazole ring which is fused with an aryl ring.

Claims 37-41. (Cancelled)